



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 9, 2004

The Honorable George Bush
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to renew our October 29, 2003, request that you call on Congress to enact the bipartisan Job Protection Act, H.R. 1769.

When we wrote you last fall, Ohio had lost 152,000 manufacturing jobs since January 2001. Since that letter, our state has lost 10,000 additional manufacturing jobs.

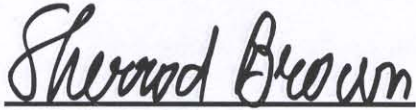
Inaction on this issue poses a tremendous threat to the American manufacturing sector. Congress and your administration missed the March 1 deadline to enact legislation to avoid \$4 billion in retaliatory tariffs on American manufactured and agricultural goods. The World Trade Organization's ruling that a provision of the U.S. tax code is illegal has spurred sanctions that would affect almost 100 classes of products, ranging from meat and jewelry to aircraft and nuclear reactors. Some of the most important manufacturing industries in Ohio would be affected by these tariffs, including iron and steel products, machinery and mechanical appliances.

A bipartisan coalition of our colleagues, split evenly between Democrats and Republicans, has backed the Job Protection Act, commonly known as the Crane-Rangel bill. The National Association of Manufacturers and the AFL-CIO have endorsed this legislation as a real response to America's manufacturing crisis. Under the Crane-Rangel bill, corporations would receive a tax benefit based on their American production. Companies that produce 100 percent of their goods in the U.S. would get 100 percent of the bill's tax benefit for which they qualify, 50 percent U.S. production means a 50 percent benefit, and so on. Any credible federal response to the manufacturing crisis must include using the tax code to reward businesses for producing in America and employing American workers.

The latest state figures show that 367,000 Ohioans are unemployed. Our constituents are anxious about the economy. They fear learning their plant will close or their job will be shipped overseas. We must reduce this anxiety.

Your visit to Ohio can be an opportunity for you to use the power of the White House to pass H.R. 1769, before the end of March. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,



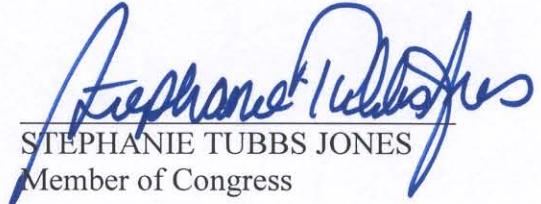
SHERROD BROWN
Member of Congress



TED STRICKLAND
Member of Congress



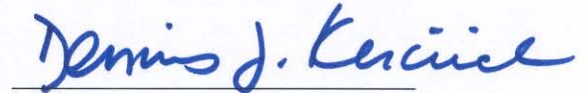
TIM RYAN
Member of Congress



STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES
Member of Congress



MARCY KAPTUR
Member of Congress



DENNIS KUCINICH
Member of Congress